

CHAPTER 15

THE NAVAL RESERVE

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this chapter, you should be able to do the following:

1. Identify the historical foundation of the Naval Reserve.
2. Identify the mission of the Naval Reserve.
3. Identify the various categories of naval reservists and Naval Reserve units.
4. Describe the training program of the Naval Reserve.
5. Describe the requirements for retirement from the Naval Reserve.

During times of peace our Active Forces are sufficient to maintain national defense. During armed conflict, however, additional trained forces are required to increase the Active Fleet. For such occasions, the Naval Reserve is ready.

The United States operates on a total force policy. The total force includes all resources available to perform the national defense missions. It includes the Active and Reserve (National Guard and Reserve) component forces; civilians; and in some contingency plans, appropriate forces of our allies.

The total force within the Navy encompasses all assets, including active-duty members and the ships and aircraft that make up the fleet. It also includes the Reserve Force and hardware that will increase the fleet and shore establishments in a national emergency or contingency. Since Naval Reserve strength is directly related to the Navy's inventory of ships, aircraft, and support equipment, it is fully integrated into force strength planning. Reservists are full partners in the naval establishment with a meaningful role. They serve as a source to whom the Active Navy can turn quickly for added manpower and hardware. Each reservist has the opportunity to make a real contribution to the Navy's mission.

HISTORY OF THE NAVAL RESERVE

The first use of a Reserve source of naval manpower took place in 1888 when Massachusetts organized a naval battalion as part of the state militia. By 1897 a total of 16 states had organized naval units as part of their state militia. Officers and men from these organizations served with the Regular Navy during the Spanish-American War.

The state militia organizations sought assistance from the federal government. Agreeing that the states should receive aid, Congress approved legislation establishing a federal Naval Reserve on 3 March 1915. However, not until 19 August 1916, with the prospect of World War I, was the Naval Reserve Force formally organized.

At the end of World War I, 330,000 Naval Reserve officers and personnel were on active duty. By the end of World War II, over three-fourths of the 3,220,000 persons on active duty in the Navy were members of the Naval Reserve.

MISSION OF THE NAVAL RESERVE

The Naval Reserve's primary mission is to provide trained personnel to supplement the Active Force in war, national emergency, or when

otherwise needed. Its secondary mission is to help the Active Force accomplish its peacetime mission by serving as a byproduct or an adjunct of training.

The Navy has many early mobilization requirements. It must immediately add aircraft and special units to the Active Forces and more ships to the fleet. It must increase its peacetime personnel strength to wartime complement. In addition, it must increase fleet support and shore-based activities and indoctrinate and train newly procured officers and enlisted personnel. Although the nation may reactivate ships of the Reserve Fleet, doing so requires too much time in the appraisal of early mobilization requirements.

The Reserve Forces maintain a large portion of the Navy's mission capability. For example, they are, in some cases, more skilled in riverine warfare, mobile inshore undersea warfare, and the use of minesweepers. Personnel of the Naval Reserve provide the capability for quick mobilization of the Navy.

Those men and women who volunteer for military service in the Naval Reserve assume an 8-year military obligation. They may fulfill this obligation on either active or inactive duty or divide their obligation between the two. The exact combination of active duty and inactive duty depends upon the plan under which the individual entered the Navy.

Current enlistment programs call for a specified period of active duty with the remainder of the 8-year obligation served in a Reserve status. For example, the Active Mariner Enlistment Program requires 3 years' active duty followed by 5 years' Reserve obligation.

COMPOSITION OF THE NAVAL RESERVE

The size, composition, and deployment requirements of the military forces at any given time depend on this nation's posture and goals in a constantly changing world. The Ready Reserve of the armed forces provides an economical way to provide people who are trained to supplement the Active Forces. Currently, federal law limits the Ready Reserve of the armed forces to not more than 2,900,000 officers and enlisted personnel. Within this total, the Navy is authorized a Ready Reserve of 530,000; presently, over 230,000 personnel serve in the Ready Reserve of the Navy.

Naval reservists fall into one of three general categories—Ready Reserve, Standby Reserve, or Retired Reserve.

READY RESERVE

The Ready Reserve consists of the Selected Reserve and the Individual Ready Reserve. The Ready Reserve includes those members, not on active duty, who are subject to call to Active service. They may be called to Active service if the President declares a national emergency, Congress declares war, or when otherwise authorized by law. Members of the Ready Reserve are expected to be available for active duty immediately upon receiving orders. However, they are allowed a reasonable time between the date they are alerted or ordered to active duty and the date they must report for duty.

Participation or nonparticipation in a drilling program has no effect on the liability of Ready reservists for recall—all are equally liable. Under the current partial mobilization concept, however, those participating in Selected Reserve units are more likely to receive involuntary orders to active duty than other reservists. Enlisted members serving voluntarily in the Ready Reserve must volunteer for a specific period. Officers execute Ready Reserve Agreements for an indefinite length of time.

Of the three Reserve categories, only members of the Ready Reserve may receive pay for participation in Reserve training.

Selected Reserve

Within the Ready Reserve the Navy maintains Selected Reserve Forces. The units and individuals within the Selected Reserve are so essential to initial wartime missions that they require a high degree of mobilization readiness. Therefore, they must take part in active-duty training and annual training in a pay status.

As the initial and primary source of Active Fleet augmentation, the Selected Reserve is immediately deployable upon mobilization. It must, therefore, be continuously combat ready and immediately responsible in times of crisis.

Individual Ready Reserve (IRR)

The Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) consists of those members of the Ready Reserve who are not in the Selected Reserve. Limitation of available pay billets, absence of drilling units

within commuting distance, conflicting employment, and other factors prevent some reservists from participating in the Selected Reserve. Therefore, reservists affected by any of these factors are assigned to the IRR.

While assigned to the IRR, members can still participate in the Naval Reserve training program. Correspondence courses are available to both officer and enlisted personnel. These reservists also remain within the Navy's mobilization potential. Additionally, within the limitation of funds, personnel in the IRR who have maintained an Active status may participate in 12 to 14 days of active-duty training annually.

STANDBY RESERVE

The Standby Reserve consists of reservists who have transferred from the Ready Reserve after fulfilling certain requirements established by law. Ready and Standby status differ mainly in the degree of liability for recall to active duty. Standby reservists can be ordered to active duty without their consent only in the event of war or an emergency declared by Congress or when otherwise authorized by law. The Navy cannot recall a Standby reservist to active duty involuntarily until the Director of the Selective Service has determined the person's availability for duty.

The Standby Reserve includes the Standby Reserve-Active and the Standby Reserve-Inactive.

Standby Reserve-Active

The Standby Reserve-Active consists of reservists who have completed their active-duty or Selected Reserve service obligation. They have requested transfer to the Active status list of the Standby Reserve. Officers with at least 18 but less than 20 years' satisfactory federal service toward retired pay for nonregular service can also request transfer to the Standby Reserve-Active. Additionally, key federal employees and personnel expecting to return to the Ready Reserve but facing temporary personal hardships may request assignment to the Standby Reserve-Active.

Standby Reserve-Inactive

The Standby Reserve-Inactive (also called the Inactive Status List or ISL) includes three groups of reservists who have been screened from the Ready Reserve. The first consists of those who

did not maintain a satisfactory level of participation. The second consists of those who allowed their Ready Reserve agreement to expire while in this status. The third consists of those who fit into both the first and second group. While in this Inactive status, a member may not participate in training programs, earn retirement points, or be considered for promotion. Reservists transferred to the Standby Reserve-Inactive may apply for reinstatement in the Ready Reserve at any time within the following 3 years. Those members not voluntarily returning to a Ready Reserve status at the end of 3 years are discharged or transferred to a retired status, as appropriate.

Members on the Inactive Status List may be called to active duty under the same conditions as other members of the Standby Reserve. However, a determination must first be made that adequate numbers of qualified personnel in an Active status (Ready and Standby Reserve-Active) are not available.

RETIRED RESERVE

The Retired Reserve-Inactive (USNR-RET) consists of reservists who are drawing retired pay or are qualified for retired pay upon reaching age 60. It also includes those who are not eligible for retired pay at any time but desire service or other requirements for voluntary assignment to the Retired Reserve in recognition of their contribution to their country and the United States Navy. Their liability for Active service is the same as that for the Standby Reserve.

UNIT CLASSIFICATIONS

Selected Reserve units are grouped into three basic categories, each with its own mission and mobilization element. These primary categories are supplemented by other Selected Reserve units and individuals of the Ready Reserve.

In some instances units of the three primary categories are unable to fill all authorized mobilization billets because of a lack of required skills within their particular geographic locations. Additional units are organized in these areas when the necessary skills are available. These additional units provide a source of Selected reservists for immediate mobilization to increase the three primary categories. Upon mobilization, they join with Selected Reserve units from other locations at the appropriate mobilization site.

In addition to the units of the Selected Reserve, volunteer units provide meaningful and

productive training. These units train qualified Ready reservists who are required for full mobilization but who are not members of the Selected Reserve. These personnel remain affiliated with the Naval Reserve in an Active capacity and are available for recall under public law. Volunteer units train in a nonpay status and serve as a skill resource from which billets in the Selected Reserve can be filled.

Category I

Category I units are those with organic equipment. Each is a self-contained unit designed to provide complete capabilities upon recall; that is, a ship, squadron, or battalion. Selected reservists fill all manpower requirements but may be combined, as in many instances, with an active-duty nucleus. Each unit has its own hardware, which it "owns and lives with," or will use predesignated hardware upon recall. Hardware required varies from weapons systems, ships, and aircraft to equipment and tools necessary for mission performance.

Category II

Category II units are augmentee units for Active Navy ships, squadrons, and mobile units. They are mission-oriented, task-performing augmentation units with a mix of specific skills. Each unit has specific skills needed to bring an active-duty Navy operating platform (a ship or aircraft squadron) up to organizational (battle) manning or full complement. A Category II unit, tailored to a specific ship class or aircraft squadron type, operates equipment and uses facilities of the parent unit.

Category III

Category III units are augmentee units for the Shore Establishment. These units, similar in character to Category II, represent the mobilization billets needed to meet Shore Establishment organizational manning requirements. Category III activities are geographically fixed rather than mobile units. Each is tailored to strengthen a specific type of nonplatform activity, such as a shipyard, air station, or staff. Category III units normally operate the equipment and use the facilities of the mobilization activity. The requirements of this category are as equally important in the accomplishment of the wartime mission as are the combat requirements.

RESERVE TRAINING

The Selected Reserve receives ongoing training throughout the year. The nature of the training depends on each reservist's individual designator/rating and job skill. It also depends on the type of unit to which the member is attached. Training takes place during unit drills and while the reservist is performing active duty for annual training (AT). A drill is a period of training authorized for inactive-duty reservists, in either a pay or nonpay status.

Members of the Selected Reserve normally perform 48 drills each year. Each "drill" consists of a 4-hour period. For most units, regularly scheduled drills are conducted one weekend per month. This multiple drill permits a greater concentration of effort and extended involvement. In some instances, drilling only one evening a week better serves the unit's mission or configuration.

Certain units are scheduled for inactive-duty travel training (IDTT). During IDTT, members receive training at fleet training sites or aboard ship.

Selected individuals and units may perform additional paid drills to maintain peak efficiency or to complete their assigned mission, or both. For example, flight crews and certain critical units often require additional drills. The number of regularly scheduled or additional paid drills may vary with need and the availability of funds.

Although not members of the Selected Reserve, Ready reservists in the IRR category and members of the Standby Reserve-Active may volunteer to participate in regularly scheduled drills. Although such members are ineligible for drill pay, they may earn retirement points by taking an active part in these drills.

ACTIVE DUTY FOR ANNUAL TRAINING (AT)

The careful coordination of AT with drilling sessions provides members of the Selected Reserve with practical experience that clarifies or supplements other instruction. On some occasions, reservists may train on Active Fleet ships for a weekend, or, in some cases for 2 weeks or more. Reservists may receive this shipboard training as an entire unit, as a team from a unit, or on an individual basis.

All members of the Selected Reserve must receive a minimum of 12 to 14 days of annual training. Members of the IRR may be assigned

AT on a voluntary basis. Annual training for an entire Selected Reserve unit is an ideal goal, although it is not always possible. When the members of an entire unit train together, it enhances their ability to perform the unit's assigned mission.

While serving on AT, Reserve units receive training and practical experience to maintain skills at Active Fleet standards. Unit, team, and individual readiness are emphasized. Important team skills may be developed through combined exercises that involve Reserve and Active air, surface, and subsurface groups in underway operational problems and exercises.

Aviation Reserve squadrons designated to mobilize with their aircraft normally perform their annual training at a fleet base. The fleet base is under the cognizance of the fleet commander to whom the squadrons report when mobilized. During this period Reserve squadrons receive a modified fleet operational readiness inspection.

In addition to AT, all aviation squadrons periodically participate in fleet operational exercises alongside their Regular Navy counterparts. Special AT is granted for this purpose. This integration with fleet units combines training with actual support of fleet activities by permitting Reserve squadrons to participate in surveillance patrols and other routine operations.

In addition to AT aboard ships, many possibilities exist for training ashore. Many stations ashore offer reservists practical experience or study of new procedures through formal instruction.

When required to perform AT, reservists receive full pay and allowances plus travel expenses. When performing AT on a voluntary basis, reservists may or may not receive pay, travel, and allowances, depending on available funds. However, members in the Standby Reserve-Active category perform all AT without pay or other allowances.

SURFACE PROGRAMS

Reserve surface programs include both afloat and ashore programs and training systems development. Afloat and ashore programs consist

of the three categories of Ready Reserve units discussed earlier as well as volunteer units.

The afloat program includes units assigned to surface combatants, submarines, and service forces. It also includes units assigned to mine warfare, amphibious warfare, and inshore undersea warfare missions.

The ashore organization includes construction forces as well as cargo-handling, supply, medical, dental, and security groups. It also includes units involved in telecommunications, law, public affairs, and other specialties.

Naval Reserve centers serve as the primary training sites for most of the surface Reserve. Naval Reserve units may use these activities entirely for themselves or share them with other military services.

Active-duty officers and enlisted personnel serve in full-time active-duty assignments at each Reserve center. The enlisted personnel support the various training programs and maintain the Reserve centers. They work in cooperation with officers and petty officers of the individual drilling units to help them carry out the training of their own units.

The centers maintain equipment for training in various areas (e.g., shops, radio, gunnery, damage control). They are adding a new dimension to the surface training environment through the installation of shipboard simulators (SBSs). These trainers simulate various shipboard functions (command and control, bridge, damage control, engineering, and communications) aboard several different ship types. Working closely with the Chief of Naval Education and Training, surface Reserve planners are continually upgrading the training capabilities of the Reserve centers.

A continuing challenge to the surface Reserve program has been geographic distance of inland units from fleet installations. Therefore, in addition to improving on-site training, the Navy and Air Force airlift reservists to their key training platforms for inactive-duty travel training (IDTT).

Surface planners, along with the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) and elements of the Active Fleet, are identifying and developing new

and expanded missions for the Naval Reserve. The purpose of these missions is to complement total force requirements. The twin goals of the surface Reserve programs are readiness and responsibility. In meeting these goals, the surface Reserve will be a full and equal partner with the Active Forces in the defense of this nation.

NAVAL AIR RESERVE FORCE PROGRAM

The Naval Air Reserve Force is responsible for providing mission-capable, task-performing units available for immediate mobilization and deployment. It is an operating command of the Chief of Naval Operations under the direction of Commander Naval Air Reserve Force. The Air Program's sponsor, representative, and technical manager is the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Air Warfare. If full or partial mobilization were required, the CNO would assign wings, squadrons, and units as needed to various Active Fleet-type commanders. Each wing, squadron, or unit would then become an integral part of its command.

Air Reserve squadrons normally operate their own assigned aircraft and equipment. They are a striking example of the hardware-oriented type of Reserve the total force Navy requires. Squadrons are, for the most part, equipped with combat-deployable, fleet-compatible aircraft. A continuing program ensures units are re-equipped and retrained to meet current fleet requirements consistent with mission objectives and budgetary constraints.

The mission, complexity of equipment, and inherent problems in the operation and use of systems used by the Naval Air Reserve Force require extensive and continuous training. To reach and maintain a high state of readiness, the Reserve Force provides training at naval air stations, facilities, and satellite activities (Naval Air Reserve Units and Centers) throughout the United States.

RETIREMENT POINT CREDIT

To qualify for retired pay, a member of the Reserve Forces must be credited with at least 50 retirement points a year for 20 years. The total

number of points earned is a factor in the computation of retirement pay. If otherwise eligible, the member may begin drawing retirement pay at age 60.

Earning 35 retirement points per year satisfies the requirement for retirement credit because a reservist is allowed 15 gratuitous points for maintaining an Active status. The reservist earns 1 retirement point for each day of Active service whether it is extended active duty or annual training. When not on active duty, the reservist receives 1 retirement point for each completed drill. The reservist may earn additional points by completing approved correspondence courses prepared by the Naval Education and Training Program Management Support Activity, other Navy sources, or the other armed forces. Members receive an appropriate number of retirement points for each course. When not on extended active duty, the member may receive a maximum of 60 points per year retirement credit plus those received for annual training.

SUMMARY

The Naval Reserve is a full partner with the Active Forces. The existence of task-oriented, mission-capable units has made the Naval Reserve a vital and contributing participant in the defense of the nation.

As a byproduct of their training, naval reservists are capable of serving side by side with their active-duty counterparts in direct support of the fleet. This unprecedented degree of integration has developed a healthy feeling of mutual support.

Such mutual support encompasses most mission areas. This integration is also a preferred method of training, since tasks performed during peacetime are similar to those expected at the outbreak of hostilities. Perhaps equally important is the satisfaction reservists get from training duty.

Today the total partnership between the Navy and the Naval Reserve has made the total force concept a reality. In the years ahead the Naval Reserve will absorb additional responsibilities. Therefore, its major challenge will be to recruit, train, and retain the numbers and types of reservists necessary to fulfill its expanding role.

Once it meets that challenge, the result is predictable—a ready force.

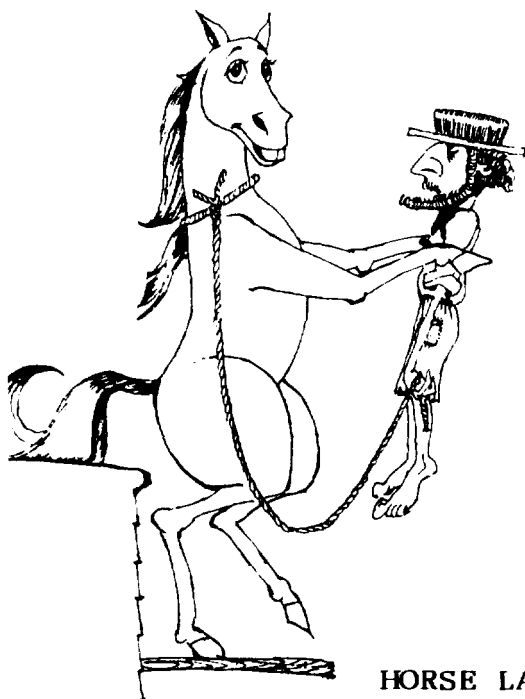
REFERENCES

Navy Fact File, 8Th Ed., Office of Information, Washington, D.C., 1988.

SUGGESTED READING

Administrative Procedures for Naval Reservists on Inactive Duty, BUPERSINST 1001.39, Bureau of Naval Personnel, Washington, D.C., 1989.

Mack, W.P., and T.D. Paulsen, *The Naval Officer's Guide*, 9th ed., Naval Institute Press, Annapolis, Md., 1983.



HORSE LATITUDES

THE WORDS OF SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE "IDLE AS A PAINTED SHIP UPON A PAINTED OCEAN" WELL DESCRIBE A SAILING SHIP'S SITUATION WHEN IT ENTERED THE HORSE LATITUDES. LOCATED NEAR THE WEST INDIES BETWEEN 30 AND 40 DEGREES NORTH LATITUDE, THESE WATERS WERE NOTED FOR UNFAVORABLE WINDS THAT BECALMED CATTLE SHIPS HEAD-ING FROM EUROPE TO AMERICA.

OFTEN SHIPS CARRYING HORSES WOULD HAVE TO CAST SEVERAL OVERBOARD TO CONSERVE DRINKING WATER FOR THE REST AS THE SHIP RODE OUT THE UNFAVORABLE WINDS. BECAUSE SO MANY HORSES AND OTHER CATTLE WERE TOSSED TO THE SEA, THE AREA CAME TO BE KNOWN AS THE "HORSE LATITUDES."

